

GEORGIANS ARE READY FOR A NEW DIRECTION

Under the leadership of President Bush and his Republican allies in Congress, life has become more difficult for Georgians. Here are some of the ways that life has become less affordable and secure in Georgia. Democrats are working for real security, better jobs, college access for all, energy independence, affordable health care, and retirement security. It's time for a new direction in Georgia.

INCOME: GEORGIANS ARE EARNING LESS TODAY THAN THEY WERE FIVE YEARS AGO

- In 2000, the median income in Georgia was \$46,840.¹
- In 2005, the median income in Georgia was \$44,140, a significant drop of 5.8 percent.²

HEALTH CARE: THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED IN GEORGIA HAS GROWN UNDER BUSH REPUBLICANS

- In 2000, Georgia had 1,147,000 adults without insurance (14.3 percent).³
- In 2005, Georgia had 1,709,000 adults without insurance (18.9 percent).⁴
- Georgia had 306,733 children benefit from the SCHIP Program.⁵ If funding is not restored by Congress to the SCHIP program, Georgia will face a funding shortfall of \$112,951,000.⁶

EDUCATION: THE COST OF COLLEGE CONTINUES TO RISE IN GEORGIA

- In 2001, tuition at a public four-year institution in Georgia was \$7,455.⁷ In 2005, it was \$9,439, an 27 percent increase.⁸
- In 2001, tuition at a private four-year institution in Georgia was \$19,743.⁹ In 2005, it was \$24,734, a 25 percent increase.¹⁰
- Number of Georgians affected by the lapse of the College Tuition Tax Deduction – 90,145¹¹
- Number of Georgians affected by the lapse of the Educator Expenses Tax Deduction – 105,028¹²

GAS PRICES: THE HIGH COST OF GAS CONTINUES TO BE A BURDEN FOR GEORGIA RESIDENTS

- In 2001, the average cost of gas in Georgia was \$1.212 a gallon.¹³
- Today the average cost of gas in Georgia is \$2.211 a gallon.¹⁴
- In 2001, the average annual cost of gas for a household in Georgia was \$2,150.¹⁵
- Today the average annual cost of gas for a household in Georgia is \$3,923, \$1,772 (82.4 percent) more than it was in 2001.¹⁶

SOCIAL SECURITY: GEORGIANS DON'T WANT AN END TO SOCIAL SECURITY

- Number of Social Security Beneficiaries in Georgia – 1,192,050¹⁷
- Average Monthly Benefit per Beneficiary in Georgia – \$843¹⁸

IRAQ, TROOPS AND VETERANS: GEORGIANS ON THE FRONT LINES

- Number of Georgians killed in Iraq – 80¹⁹
- Number of Georgians wounded in Iraq – 613²⁰
- Number of Georgians killed in Afghanistan – 6²¹
- Number of Georgians wounded in Afghanistan – 19²²
- Number of Veterans in Georgia – 760,323²³

REPUBLICANS CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR GIVEAWAYS FOR A WEALTHY MINORITY WHILE IGNORING GEORGIA'S MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS

- Only 615 estates in Georgia paid an Estate Tax in 2004.²⁴
- Only 98 estates in Georgia will benefit from the Estate Tax cut in 2009.²⁵
- In contrast, 207,000 workers in Georgia would benefit from an increase in the minimum wage.²⁶

CRIME: FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY POLICING DISAPPEARING

- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2002 – \$10,942,259²⁷
- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2006 – \$1,140,183²⁸

TAX CUTS: BUSH TAX POLICIES BENEFIT THE WEALTHIEST GEORGIANS

The Bush tax cuts have overwhelmingly benefited the wealthiest Georgians.

- In 2001, the richest one percent of Georgia residents each received an average of \$2,745 in tax cuts, while middle class Georgia residents received only \$416.²⁹
- In 2006, the richest one percent of Georgia residents will receive an average of \$37,759 in tax cuts, while middle class Georgia residents will only receive \$717.³⁰
- In 2010, under the Bush tax plan, the richest one percent of Georgia residents will each receive an average of \$76,382 in tax cuts, while middle class Georgia residents will only receive \$799.³¹

The richest Georgians receive an ever-growing share of the Bush tax cut.

- In 2001, the richest Georgians received 6.6 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class received 19 percent of the tax cut.³²

- But, in 2006, the richest Georgians will get 26.1 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 10.3 percent of the tax cut.³³
- And, in 2010, the richest Georgians will get 46.4 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 10.3 percent of the tax cut.³⁴

Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest Georgians.

- In 2010, the richest Georgians will receive an average of \$11,085 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That means the richest Georgians will be getting over 49.6 percent of all of the tax cut benefit.³⁵
- In contrast, in 2010, middle class Georgians will receive an average of \$30 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That's just 2.6 percent of the benefit going to the middle class.³⁶

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